



2013 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Eight years ago, Valley Forge National Historical Park celebrated its first MLK Day of Service with 15 volunteers from the Vanguard Group. On Monday, January 21, 2013, 256 people gathered in the park's theater ready to lend their hands to help cares for the park's cultural, natural and recreational resources on the 18th National Day of Service in honor of Dr. Martin L. King Jr. The growth and support of this event from the surrounding communities continues to be impressive and inspiring.

Event Highlights

The day of service began as Park Ranger Sara Karpinski and Friends of Valley Forge Park Chairman, Don Naimoli greeted a packed theater of energetic volunteers and presented them with a special showing of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Together with park staff from the maintenance and natural resources divisions, the group completed the following projects:

- Cleaned the wood work, tiled and painted surfaces in the theater, Washington's Headquarters, train station, administration building, and in the park's restrooms.
- Cleaned and prepped the garden beds and drainage areas throughout the Visitor Center complex. Perennial plants were cut back, and debris and leaves were removed.
- Repaired approximately 2,000 feet of fencing that surrounds Wayne's Woods.
- Removed 30 commemorative wreaths that were laid around the National Memorial Arch.
- Removed 90 bags of trash and ten tons of scrap metal from the park's boundary lines.
- Cut invasive vines on three acres of land on the north side of the park.
- Cleared and rebuilt drainage features on two miles of the Mount Misery and Horse-shoe trails.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who made this day a huge success:

St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
Vanguard Group
Valley Forge Military Academy and College
Boys Scouts of America - Devon Troop 45
Boy Scouts of America - Cub Scouts Bear Den
Royal Bank of America
Lockheed Martin, NOVA

Appalachian Mountain Club
Springside Chestnut Hill Academy Middle School
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Friends of Valley Forge Park
Encampment Store
Countless families and individuals



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